#### THE INVADER

- Dr. Newberry spotted kudzu
- A total of five infestations in the preserve
  - Killing trees
  - Over running
    - Entrance
    - Creek and branch areas
    - Smothering and destroying vegetation

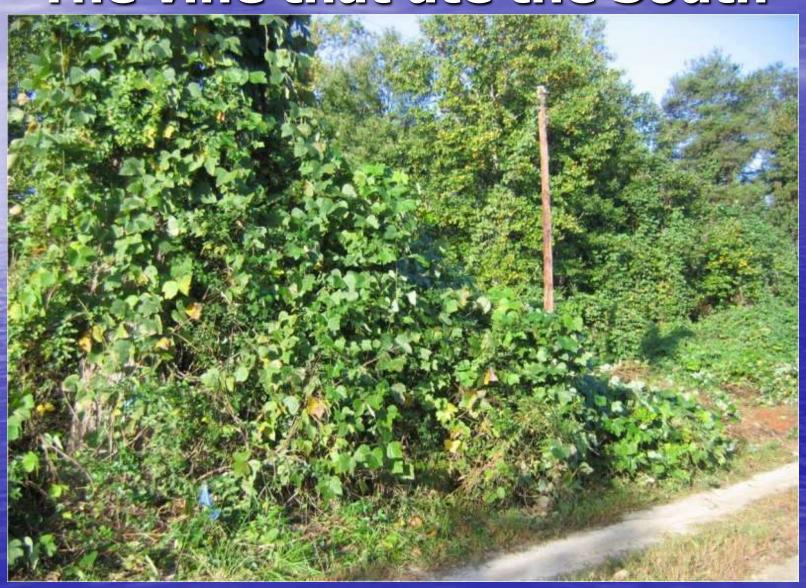
## KUDZU INVADER (Pueraria montana var. lobata)



### KUDZU, A LEGUME, IS AN INVASIVE PLANT

- Invasive species:
  - Are not native to the US
  - -Thrive in our climate
  - Have few or no natural predators
  - Grow rapidly
  - -Overrun native plants

# **\*\*KUDZU AT PETER'S CREEK \*\*The vine that ate the South\***



# THE KUDZU PROBLEM MAY BE WORSE THAN WE THOUGHT

In late 2006 Dr. Gill Newberry discovered peach scale (Pseudauacacaspis pentagona) over-wintering on kudzu in Peter's Creek Preserve

### OVER-WINTERING ON KUDZU



# MAGNIFICATION OF THE PEACH SCALE INSECT ON KUDZU SURFACE



### **CLEMSON REPORT:**

This is the first finding in South Carolina of peach scale over-wintering on kudzu

World wide, peach scale is the most damaging pest on many peach farms

#### KUDZU'S THREE PROBLEMS

- 1. Lots of it, no natural controls
- 2. Apathy: Many think nothing can be done except spray with herbicides
- 3. The environment is sensitive and use of chemicals can be a problem